

REMARKS

Summary of the Official Action

Claims 1-21 are pending in the present Application. In the Office Action the Examiner entered a restriction, asserting the claims are directed to two distinct inventions:

- Group I: Claims 1-13, drawn to a container for albumin, classified in class 206, subclass 438; and,
- Group II: Claims 14-21, drawn to method of making a flexible polymeric container, classified in class 53, subclass 425.

Traverse and Provisional Election

Applicants traverse the restriction requirement, and request that the requirement be withdrawn. Pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 803, a restriction requirement is proper only if (1) the inventions are independent or distinct as claimed, and (2) there would be a serious burden on the Examiner if the restriction is not required. Applicants respectfully submit that a search and examination of claims readable on the separate groups of claims would not impose a serious burden on the Examiner.

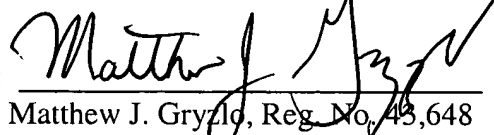
If the Examiner makes the restriction requirement final, however, Applicants elect to prosecute the claims of Group I, Claims 1-13. In that event, Applicants request that the remaining claims, Claims 14-21, be withdrawn without prejudice. Additionally, Applicants expressly reserve the right to file a divisional application to the Group II claims.

The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned if the Examiner has any questions concerning this Reply, or if it will expedite the progress of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 8, 2004

By:


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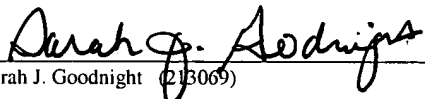
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Sarah J. Goodnight (213069)